LEITH2.001APC PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Schneider et al.

App. No : 10/549,651

Filed: January 8, 2007

For : BRACING ARRANGEMENT WITH

OVERLOAD PROTECTION

Examiner : Gary Wayne Estremsky

Art Unit : 3677

Conf No. : 6186

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated July 23, 2009, Applicant respectfully submits the following amendments and comments in connection with the above-captioned application.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.